the allegations as to the murdering and plundering of wounded Dervishes by camp followers after the battle of Omdurman, and also in regard to the alleged dismemberment of the Mahdi's body before it was thrown into the Nile.

SCOTCH PRIVATE BILLS.

Sir H CAMPBELL BANNERMAN asked the First Lord of the Treasury when the Scotch Private Bill Procedure Bill would be taken. He hoped it would not be immediately before or after the Easter Recess, as it would not be convenient for members who had long railway journeys to take at this inclement season of the year (laughter).

Mr. BALFOUR said he originally suggested it should be taken on the Tuesday before the House separated, but he would put it down for the Monday, leaving nothing for Tuesday except the motion for the adjournment.

THE BUDGET.

Sir HENRY FOWLER asked if any day had been fixed for the Budget.

Mr BALFOUR—I hope it will be taken on the first Thursday after we return, but that must not be taken as a pledge.

LONDON GOVERNMENT BILL.

On the order for the second reading of the London Government Bill,

Mr. HERBERT GLADSTONE moved "That no Bill dealing with the local government of the metropolis will be satisfactory which, while disturbing the existing system, fails to simplify and complete it, and which at the same time renders more difficult the attainment of the unity of London." He held, he said, that excepting in size London was in no way dissimilar to the other great cities of this country, and that the government of the metropolis ought to be based on the basis of one great central authority with subordinate councils having ample powers to carry out such local concerns as might be necessary. The unity of London was directly challenged by this Bill (oh, and cheers). The whole tendency of the measure was to weaken and eliminate the present central authority, and to set up under the name and guise of municipal boroughs a number of parishes selected arbitrarily and on a settled plan. The Conservative Party were proceeding against the experience of the last fifty years and had entirely changed their policy in regard to this question. Had Mr. Balfour so fallen in love with the municipal system that he must have twenty-four Corporations in London instead one, or did this change of policy rating from antipathy to the London County Council (Opposition cheers). He demanded from the Government their authority for this proposal (renewed cheers). On what report or Royal Commission was it based? Where was their mandate (loud cheers). The Government had not approached the County Council in any way. It had been their friends preferred under the circumstances to have no Bill at all. In defiance of the Royal Commission of 1894 and the decisive opinion expressed by London in March, 1895, the Bill reversed the policy which had been followed by the Government in 1888, and it could reverse the whole political life of the metropolis by forcing into the arena questions relating to the whole frame and constitution of London government (loud Opposition cheers).

The discussion on the amendment had not concluded at midnight, when the debate stood adjourned.

CIVIL SERVICE VOTE.

Mr HAVELOCK WILSON moved to reduce the Civil Service vote by one hundred pounds as a protest against the neglect of the Board of Trade to enforce various provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act in the interests of British seafaring men.

The vote was carried by 134 against 32.

The House rose at 25 minutes past 2.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEW CHURCH, MONAGHAN.

APPEAL BY THE MOST REV. DR. OWENS, BISHOP OF CLOGHER.

On Sunday evening a meeting of the Catholics of Monaghan assembled on invitation by his Lordship the Most Rev Dr Owens, Bishop of the Diocese, was held in the Christian Brothers' Schools for the purpose obtaining the initial step in wiping off the debt incurred in the erection of the new church of St Joseph, Monaghan, which will be dedicated in the coming autumn. His Lordship presided, and amongst those present were the Rev P M'Donnell, Adm; Rev J Gallagher, C C; Rev F Tierney, Professor St Macartan's Seminary, Monaghan; Rev John Trainor, do, and a large attendance of the laity.

His Lordship, addressing the meeting, said he had not been there for the first instance, for coming out in such large numbers—many of them, he felt sure, at considerable inconvenience—that evening. It was just characteristic of the good Catholics of Monaghan that they always too ready and willing to respond to the invitations of their clergy—to second the efforts of the bishop and priests, when those efforts were directed, as they invariably were, to good objects (applause). He said on that day week that he was ready to give £500 to the new church; that he would pay £300 that evening, and that, if he should live for the opening, he should pay the balance, and if he did not he should make the amount secure (loud applause). Since that day week he had found greatly to his surprise, one very generous member of the community, who had, notwithstanding his his Lordship's protest, insisted on expending on the High Altar of the new church no mean sum (loud applause). This very generous member wished not to have his name mentioned for the present, but when he (his Lordship) told them that he did not expect the offering it would not be difficult to discover who that munificent donor was (applause). Another worthy member of the community—one of the oldest inhabitants of the town—had undertaken since that day week to fill the sanctuary window with stained glass at a cost of £150 (applause). In this case no obligation of secrecy had been put upon him, and he was at liberty to mention that this generous donor was Mrs Deighan, of Church square (applause). In that way they had practically put together inside the last eight days £1,150. He wished it to be understood that he put no pressure on anyone. He would rather undertake the payment of the whole cost himself rather than there should be the least pressure on any member of the community. As they knew, he had a little to begin the work with, but that had long since gone. It would not give him the least trouble if on the completion of the church a debt still remained, and he would willingly pay the interest on such a debt until a means could be found of paying it off (applause). He said that in order that none of them might feel oppressed by their generosity he left it to their own generosity, and in opening the subscription list with his first instalment of £300 he gave them the assurance that every penny of it was his own (loud applause).

The subscriptions were then taken up, and when the list was closed it was found that the actual amount in cash paid down was £721, while in addition £600 had been promised to be paid on the day of dedication.

His Lordship duly acknowledged the generosity exhibited, and brought the proceedings to a close by imparting his blessing to the meeting.

ALLEGED ASSAULT IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

London, Tuesday.

At Bow street Police Court this afternoon George Procter Ellison, aged 32, bank clerk, living at Hither Green, was charged with indecently assaulting Miss Eva Shipway, aged 17, living at Beckenham, and causing her actual bodily harm. Plaintiff, whose left eye and hand were badly cut, deposed that she travelled to London this morning by the South-Eastern Railway. She was alone in a first-class carriage. When at Cannon street Station prisoner got in, and immediately after leaving Charing Cross Station assaulted her. She screamed, and he then put his hand over her mouth. She managed to get to the window and broke the window with her hands, screaming for help. On the arrival of the train at Charing Cross Ellison was arrested. He denied the charge, said "Girls would say anything," and when she suddenly rushed to the window and broke it, and he merely pulled her back. Two railway servants deposed that when the train was running into Charing Cross Station they heard the girl screaming, "Oh, save me." The prisoner was remanded for inquiry.

PARIS NOTES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Paris, March 20.

The French Government helped Cardinal Richard to make the funeral of the Apostolic Nuncio, Monsignor Clari, very imposing. The Republic sent its high officials and generals to Notre Dame, lent cavalry, infantry, and artillery, and fired minute guns, while the Archbishop regulated the Church Service, and paid for it out of the funds of the diocese. The body of the League was taken to Notre Dame on Monday night, and the Solemn Service began on Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. The Cathedral was filled on the occasion, conspicuous among the persons near the catafalque being the brilliantly-attired diplomatic representatives of the various nations, such as Russia, Germany, England, Italy, Spain, China, and Persia. The chief mourners were the Monsignori who acted as the late Nuncio's secretaries, and some members of the Clari family. With them were the Chamberlains of "Cape and Sword," sent specially from Rome. The chair was a throne of Roman purple and violet, intermingled with blue. There was first, Cardinal Richard, who presided, seated near the high altar, and next, Cardinal Langenieux, Archbishop of Rheims, on the Epistle side; Cardinal Lecot, Archbishop of Bordeaux, at the Gospel side; the Archbishops of Bourges, Toulouse, Sens, and Tours; the Bishops of Seez, Evreux, Troyes, Cahors, Dijon, Mans; Monsseigneur Le Roy, Titular Bishop of Alinda, and Superior-General of the Congregation of the Holy Ghost; Monseigneur de Courmont, Bishop of Bethlehem; Monseigneur de la Passardiere, Bishop of Rouen; representatives of the Patriarchs of Antioch and Jerusalem, the Vicars-General of Paris, and Superior-Generals and Superiors of Orders and Congregations. Large numbers of nuns were present.

The Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Mgr de l'Escaille, Dean of the Metropolitan Chapter, with the liturgical plain chant which was sung by the Cathedral choir, the students of St Sulpice, and those of the Petits Chanteurs of St Nicolas. There were thus three hundred voices, one being a very pure soprano heard in a solo. The singing throughout, both in unison and in parts, was perfect. The choirs were directed by M Gieupitz, the priest who is Chapelmaster at Notre Dame, and by the counsellor of the St Sulpice Class of Harmony. After the Mass five Absolutions were given by prelates, according to Episcopal promotion. First came the Archbishop of Bourges, Mgr Servonnet, then Mgr Recoe, Archbishop of Tours, Mgr Mathieu, Archbishop of Toulon; Mgr Ardin, Archbishop of Sens; and finally Cardinal Richard. Thus, according to rule, only one Cardinal gave an Absolution, although there were others present. When all was over the body was taken down to the crypt of the church, preceded by priests, religious and acolytes, at the head being two Franciscans from the Batignolles Friary of the Recollects, who were near neighbours and friends of the late Nuncio. Outside Notre Dame the troops rendered the last honours to him, while bells pealed mournfully; the bands played funeral marches, and the guns boomed salutes. The body was temporarily placed in the crypt of the Cathedral, prior to transfer to Sinigaglia, where Mgr Clari was born.

The anniversary was marked by the celebration of St Patrick's Day in Paris this year. At ten o'clock in the morning Mass was celebrated by Father O'Doherty, Professor at the Irish College, in the historic chapel at 20 Rue des Carmes. It was in this place, originally a Lollard College, founded for Italian students by the Bishop of Tournay and the Archbishops of Bologna and Ravenna, that the Irish priests had their headquarters from 1578 up to 1792, when they were forced through persecution. The Mass was "to obtain the Holy Ghost, 1677, and it is still the property of the Irish College of the Rue des Irlandais. James II once held a levee there during his stay in Paris, which ended with his death at St Germain en Laye. On this memorable spot there assembled on Friday morning two Irishmen and some French friends of Ireland. All the students of the Irish College attended, headed by the Rector, the Very Rev Father Boyle, C M, with whom were Fathers Dowling, Gilmartin, and O'Regan, also of the Vincentian Order, the Rev M Costelloe, the Rev C Hermeline, both Professors at the Little Seminary of Notre Dame des Champs, and the Rev Mr Crowley, M de Kirwan and Madame de Kirwan, M and Madame and Master O'Toole, Madame Dorey, M Nemours Godre, Dr Keating, Mr Hall, M Pierre, President of the Catholic Workmen's Club, and a few other French ladies and gentlemen were present. After Father O'Doherty had said Mass, the Rev C Hermeline, who speaks English well, delivered a most interesting address. After having reviewed the career of St Patrick, he referred to the miraculous operation which the Saint had effected in Ireland—an operation which made the Green Isle one of the most solid strongholds of the Catholic Faith down to the present day. To Ireland were applicable the words of Tertullian about the "Seed of martyrs being the seed of Christians." The persecutions in Ireland, said the reverend speaker, only served to implant the Faith more firmly in the hearts of the people who were still engaged in expanding it throughout the world. In New York alone there were two Archbishops, and that must be attributed to the Irish, who also helped in the expansion of the Faith in Australia, Africa, and elsewhere. M Hermeline was warmly congratulated at the conclusion of his admirable address. In the afternoon the chapel was the chapel terminated, the students of the Irish College, who had sung during Mass, gave the "Irish Faith of our Fathers." At the Church of the Passionistes, Avenue Reche, St Patrick's Day was also observed in special solemnity. At ten o'clock High Mass was sung by Monseigneur de Courmont, Bishop of Bodoes. In the afternoon the Rev Father Columban, C P, preached the panegyric of St Patrick. There was also a Mass at Notre Dame, celebrated by Monseigneur de l'Escaille, for the "St Patrick's Association."

On Saturday evening the "Shamrock" banquet took place at the Grand Hotel on Louvre. Among those present were — The Very Rev Canon Connelly, Father O'Doherty, the Rev C Hermeline, Rev M Costello, M L Nemours Godre, M C de Kirwan, M O'Toole, Mr C M'Carthy Leeling, M Auguste Roussel, M Joseph Mollet, M Paul Taillier, Baron Farquharson-Stuart, M Boyer de Bouillane, Baron de Bernon, Dr Keating, and more than thirty other gentlemen.

The Erckmann-Chatrian romances are now-a-days little read; but their writers are well remembered. The last of the two literary Alsatians who made fortunes by the originality of their realistic stories written in a clear, simple style, has been called to his rest. Erckmann, the mere schoolmaster, has died near Nancy, and his former collaborator, Chatrian, passed away at Phalsburg in 1890. They were both good business men, as well as authors, and each looked so carefully after his own interests that a quarrel ensued, and they separated. Erckmann, who was a morose man, executed the other, whom he regarded as an inferior writer. To prove this he wrote several stories single-handed. Both Erckmann and Chatrian are accused of having paved the way to the present unpopularity of the Army among the masses. They drew pictures of peasants who had no patriotism, and who only accepted military service because it was imposed upon them.

ITALY AND CHINA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

Rome, Tuesday.

The Chinese Minister has been commissioned to explain and endeavour to bring about a settlement of the incident of the return by the Peking Government of the Italian Note to Signor Martino. On the other hand, it is stated that the Minister will inform his Government of the firm attitude adopted by the Italian Government. The negotiations will, however, be carried on chiefly at Peking through the new Italian representative, who will leave for China without delay.

Rome, Tuesday Evening.

The Chinese Minister was received to-day by King Humbert. His Excellency returns to London this evening. Signor Salvago Raggi will leave immediately for Pekin, where he is expected to arrive in about six weeks' time, and will then resume negotiations, which, according to the "Italia," can only be entrusted to the head of the Italian Legation. No solution of the question can therefore be expected for two months.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

TRAINING OF THE MEATH MILITIA.

Drogheda, Tuesday.

Thanks to the efforts of Colonel Pepper, the training of the Meath Militia, numbering upwards of 1,050 men, will take place this year at Mosney, four miles from Drogheda.

DEATH OF A COUNTY COUNCILLOR.

Clonmel, Tuesday.

I regret to announce the death of Mr Michael Scott, County Councillor for the Fenor Division of Tipperary, which occurred rather suddenly at his residence, Gootcher, near Thurles. He was recently returned unopposed for this division, and had been for many years guardian in Urlingford Union, and D.V.C. of that board. He was unmarried, and was a brother of the late Father Scott, C C Fethard. A fresh election will now take place in the division.

LAND PURCHASE IN CO. LIMERICK.

Our Glin correspondent writes—The tenants on the county Limerick estate of the late Daniel Fitzgerald Gabbett, J P, formerly M P for Limerick city, have just received intimation from the Land Court that they are now the owners of their holdings under the 40th section of the Land Act. The terms are 20 years' rent on the valuation made by Mr. E Langley Hunt, the Court Valuer, who was specially sent down for the purpose. In some instances the instalments fixed by the court will be found to be much less than those made by the court for the purchase will not be quite half of the old rent, while in others the reductions vary from 20 to 40 per cent on the old rents.

NEW MASTER FOR ARMAGH WORKHOUSE.

Armagh, Tuesday.

A specially convened meeting of the Armagh Board of Guardians was held to-day for the purpose of electing a master of the workhouse in room of Mr David Gillespie lately resigned. The salary was settled at £75, with apartments, rations, &c. There were five applicants, out of which Mr. James Stuart, at present Head Constable of the R I C in Armagh, was elected by a considerable majority.

THE NATIONAL TEACHERS.

KERRY COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at Killarney, Mr M O'Doherty, Killorglin, was unanimously chosen chairman, and Sir Courtney, of Killarney, was elected hon sec. Messrs Donnelly, Hickey, Cronin, Sullivan, O'Donnell, O'Doherty, and Brien were elected to represent the association at the Limerick Congress. Resolutions were adopted claiming class salaries for Assistants, abolition of remiss system, withdrawal of caretaker's agreement, compulsory education, salaries &c., while bells rang mournfully; the bands played funeral marches, and the guns boomed salutes. The body was temporarily placed in the crypt of the Cathedral, prior to transfer to Sinigaglia, where Mgr Clari was born.

PUPIL'S CONCERT AT ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOLS, LONGFORD.

Longford, Tuesday.

A concert, which was attended with great success, was held in the Infant Schoolroom of St Joseph's Convent, Longford, yesterday afternoon. Earlier in the day Solemn Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by Rev Father Costello, attached to the Convent, in the presence of a large congregation, it being the anniversary of the foundation of the Convent, the stone of which was laid by the Most Rev Dr Conroy. The ceremonies of High Mass was Most Rev Dr Boyle, Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise; Rev Father Kiernan, C C, deacon; Rev Father O'Farrell, C C, Cloonbroney, assistant deacon; Rev Father Caverly, Killashee, assistant subdeacon; Dean Monahan, assistant priest; Father Murray, C C, master of ceremonies. In the choir were Veneable Archdeacon Smyth, Granard; Canon O'Farrell, Ardagh; Canon Gilligan, Carrick-on-Shannon; Canon O'Farrell, Drumsnay; Canon Martin, Edgeworthstown; Father Dowdall, C C, Scrabby; Father Ledwith the Rev M Costelloe, professed the Rev C Hermeline, both Professors at the Little Seminary of Notre Dame des Champs, and the Rev Mr Crowley. M de Kirwan and Madame de Kirwan, M and Madame and Master O'Toole, Madame Dorey, M Nemours Godre, Dr Keating, Mr Hall, M Pierre, President of the Catholic Workmen's Club, and a few other French ladies and gentlemen were present. After Father O'Doherty had said Mass, the Rev C Hermeline, who speaks English well, delivered a most interesting address. After having reviewed the career of St Patrick, he referred to the miraculous operation which the Saint had effected in Ireland—an operation which made the Green Isle one of the most solid strongholds of the Catholic Faith down to the present day. To Ireland were applicable the words of Tertullian about the "Seed of martyrs being the seed of Christians." The persecutions in Ireland, said the reverend speaker, only served to implant the Faith more firmly in the hearts of the people who were still engaged in expanding it throughout the world. In New York alone there were two Archbishops, and that must be attributed to the Irish, who also helped in the expansion of the Faith in Australia, Africa, and elsewhere. M Hermeline was warmly congratulated at the conclusion of his admirable address. In the afternoon the chapel terminated, the students of the Irish College, who had sung during Mass, gave the "Irish Faith of our Fathers." At the Church of the Passionistes, Avenue Reche, St Patrick's Day was also observed in special solemnity. At ten o'clock High Mass was sung by Monseigneur de Courmont, Bishop of Bodoes. In the afternoon the Rev Father Columban, C P, preached the panegyric of St Patrick. There was also a Mass at Notre Dame, celebrated by Monseigneur de l'Escaille, for the "St Patrick's Association."

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SODALITY.

RETREAT BY THE VERY REV BERNARD VAUGHAN, S. J.

The usual Triduum in preparation for Easter held by the Sodality of University College, will commence to day (Wednesday), and will be conducted by the Very Rev Bernard Vaughan, S J, Rector of the Jesuits' Church in Manchester. Father Vaughan belongs to a family which has given many distinguished ecclesiastics to the Church. The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster is his brother, while no less than four other brothers entered the sacred ministry; one, the late Dr Bede Vaughan, having attained the dignity of Archbishop of Sydney. The present Bishop of Plymouth is his uncle. Father Vaughan himself is known throughout England as a controversial preacher of singular power, and has, with his distinguished brothers, contributed in a large degree towards the Catholic revival in that country. He is already known in Dublin as an eloquent preacher, and his distinguished position which he occupies will probably attract large numbers to the Retreat, which he is to conduct in connection with the College Sodality. The exercises will commence at 1 p m, and again at 7 p. m. on to-day and to-morrow and Friday. They will be open to all students and professional men. Tickets may be had on application to the College.

EXPLOSION IN A CARTRIDGE FACTORY.

London, Tuesday.

An explosion occurred this morning in the Cannon Cartridge Factory, East Laboratory, Woolwich Arsenal, where the work of filling cartridges and cordite is carried on. The whole of the workmen rushed out of the building, but after the effects of the explosion had passed off a workman named Henry Taney, 27, married, was found lying unconscious outside the door, with burns on face and hands and suffering from shock. Hopes are entertained of his recovery. The factory where the explosion occurred forms part of the "Danger Buildings," in Plumstead Marshes, specially constructed to prevent explosions extending to the adjacent workshops.

THE COMING ELECTIONS.

MEETING IN WOODFORD, COUNTY GALWAY.

Loughrea, Tuesday.

On Sunday last a large and enthusiastic meeting was held in Woodford, the prime object of which was to further the interests of the United Irish League candidates for the county council and district council of South and East Galway. Deputations attended from the different electoral divisions interested, which contributed largely to make the demonstration one of the most important of its kind held in the locality. Amongst those who addressed the meeting were—Rev Father Costelloe, P P, Woodford; Rev Father Fegan, P P, Duniry; Messrs J Roche, M P; P Sweeney, Loughrea; John Dorevan, Portumna, etc. After the business of the appointments for district councillors was got through the more important selection of the county councillors for the Loughrea and Portumna divisions of Galway was discussed. The relative merits of the nominated candidates—Mr. Peter Sweeney and Mr John Dorevan—for these divisions were dwelt upon at length, when the following resolutions were put to the meeting and unanimously adopted—

That we, the electors of South and East Galway, in public meeting assembled at Woodford, unanimously adopt the candidatures of Mr Peter Sweeney and Mr John Dorevan for the county council divisions of Loughrea and Portumna, and pledge ourselves to strain every nerve in securing their triumphant return.

That we the priests and people assembled at Woodford hereby proclaim our determination to assert our right to equality in the matter of university education.

CARRACASTLE, CO. MAYO, U I L.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the above branch was held on Sunday under the presidency of the Rev P Gallagher, P P. A resolution was adopted calling on the Leaguers of the Clonmore and Kiltaragh Electoral Divisions to vote and support the candidates appointed by the United Irish League, viz, J Jennings, Carrareastle; J Benson, Rooskey; J Parsons, Charlestown; R Gallagher, Lurigs Upper.

MEETING IN COOLOCK.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held on Sunday in Coolock in support of the candidature of Mr J J Flood, as County Councillor, and Messrs Wm Hoey and Michael M'Guinness, as District Councillors, for the Baldoyle and Coolock Division of North Dublin. Great crowds assembled from the different districts about, and the Finglas Brass Band, St Margaret's Fife and Drum Band, Baldoyle and Clontarf Bands, all headed large contingents. Mr C S M Guinness presided, and was supported on the platform by representatives of all the divisions mentioned. Having opened the proceedings, the chairman called on Mr J Murphy, who proposed a resolution pledging confidence in and support to Mr Flood. He exhorted his fellow labourers to vote solid for their man, who pledged themselves at every meeting to do their part, and show that the men of North Dublin were solid to the heart's core for labour and liberty.

Mr J J Flood, who was loudly cheered, dwelt at length on the manner in which the labourers were treated in the past, and the great future before them if they proved true and concerted in themselves.

A resolution endorsing the candidatures of Messrs M'Guinness and Hoey for the District Council was proposed by Mr Lyons, Baldoyle, and supported by Mr Dixon, Dublin; Mr P Gregan, ex-T C, Dublin; and R J Duggan, Dublin; and passed unanimously.

Messrs Wm Hoey and Michael M'Guinness, who met with a great reception, then thanked the electors for the many promises of support received in their canvass, and assured the meeting that when elected they would prove in every way worthy of their utmost confidence.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting, which was very orderly, and carried on to the entire satisfaction of all interested.

COUNTY DUBLIN C. C.

LUCAN, CLONSILLA, BLANCHARDSTOWN, AND PALMERSTON DIVISION.

A public meeting of the Nationalists of above division was held in Lucan on Sunday, 19th instant, in support of the Nationalist candidate, Mr John Brennan. It was very large and representative, upwards of five hundred people attended. The chair was occupied by Mr Edward Lynch, P L G, Springfield, Clondalkin. The Chairman opened the proceedings by a short review of the candidates. Among others the meeting was addressed by Mr James Egan, Sword Bearer, Dublin Corporation; Mr Lambert, Chairman Amnesty Association; Mr Joseph Deane, Lucan. The resolution was strongly in favour of Mr Brennan, and Mr Egan's eloquent speech was loudly applauded.

Mr Brennan, who was received most enthusiastically by the meeting, then addressed them in a suitable speech, explaining his views on all the most important points of National interest and thanked them for their support.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

The Lucan and Leixlip bands were in attendance.

Mr Brennan intends to hold a similar meeting at Blanchardstown on Sunday next, the 26th.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PROGRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL.

Edgeworthstown, March 20th, 1899.

DEAR SIR—I wish through the medium of your influential columns to call the attention of Irish thinkers to the very remarkable article in my brother's "Economic Journal" of this month (March) by Mr W P Reeves, the eloquent Agent-General for New Zealand, one of the most original and advanced thinkers of the day, who in Mr Reeves proves to demonstration what notable prosperity and progress Australasia and New Zealand had achieved through having been allowed a free hand in managing their own affairs in their own way—they have cut their coat to suit their own cloth—would that we in Ireland could follow suit! An obvious and irrefutable corollary from Mr. Reeves' article is that if Ireland could exhort control of her own Customs she might at no remote period become one of the most flourishing agricultural communities on the face of the earth instead of what she is, the Cinderella of the nations, brought low by 100 years of alien misrule and overtaxation, the victim of regularly-recurring famines and periodical "Land Wars" the logical results of over-taxation according to all economic theory and precedent. The remedy is simplicity itself—sweet simplicity!—Let us manage our own little island in our way, and we shall, as surely as the night follows the day, become contented, loyal, prosperous, and peaceful, a help and not a stumbling-block to the contiguous island. Instead of a million-and-a-half of our Irish money wasted upon helmeted policemen to look after four million of Irish men, women, and children, and about half-a-million of unfortunate muzzled Irish dogs—be the same more or less—let us have the right to settle our own Custom duties and protect our nation's industries. Such is the prescription for Ireland's chronic malady of decline and poverty, which we have confidence in its infallible efficacy (if we could only get it) by yours truly,

A. E. ENGLEWORTH.

£4,000,000 FOR SPAIN.

Washington, Tuesday.

The twenty million dollars, four millions sterling, which the United States pays to Spain, becomes available so soon as the ratifications of the Treaty have been exchanged. If Spain desires it can be transmitted through M. Cambon, or it can be paid in Paris by the United States Fiscal Agents there.

THE LATE LORD HERSCHELL.

London, Tuesday.

A funeral service for the late Lord Herschell was held at Westminster Abbey at noon today, when a great congregation assembled. The Queen was represented by Lord Churchill, one of the Lords-in-Waiting, who brought a wreath on behalf of her Majesty, bearing the autograph inscription, "A mark of sincere regard from Victoria." The Prince of Wales was represented by Sir Francis Knollys. The pallbearers comprised—The United States Ambassador, Mr Balfour, Lord James of Hereford, Sir Henry Roscoe, Mr F Buxton, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Kimberley, Lord Strathcona, the Speaker, and Mr Victor Williamson.

THE EVICTED TENANTS.

GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN LOUGHREA

A monster demonstration was held in Loughrea, organised by the Nationalists of the district, in furtherance of the cause of the evicted tenants. Every parish within a radius of 12 miles of Loughrea was fully represented at the meeting, large contingents coming from the districts where the land agitation raged fiercest, and where there are now "wounded soldiers" in need of help. All the Nationalists of the country went hand in hand in carrying out the good work, and they were, as heretofore, ably assisted by the clergy. The action of the Most Rev Dr Healy, D D, in subscribing for the cause was hailed with the greatest satisfaction, and several others immediately followed his example. Besides this arrangements were made to appoint committees in every parish for the purpose of making up a subscription for the evicted tenants. The meeting was the largest held in Galway for a number of years past.

On the proposition of Mr P J Kelly, P L G, seconded by Mr T Mulkern, T C,

The Rev Father Nobilly, Adm, Loughrea, was moved to the chair, and on coming forward was received with loud cheers. During the course of an eloquent speech he said—The evicted tenants have a claim on the tenant farmers of Ireland. They fought your battle; whatever reductions you got in your rents, whatever fixity of tenure you have got in your homes, you owe it all to the evicted tenants (hear, hear). Is there any sacrifice we have made in the effort to gain legislative independence for our country we owe it in a great measure to the evicted tenants of Ireland (cheers). Therefore, it is our plain duty to see that the evicted tenants are looked after and that if ever there was a great meeting that whoever else may forget the sacrifices they have made the people of Loughrea will not forget them (cheers). It is not speeches the evicted tenants want (hear, hear). It is money. I am glad to be able to announce to this magnificent meeting that we have the sympathy of our noble Bishop (cheers). He has this day handed me a cheque for three pounds for the poor evicted (cheers). I myself will give £2 freely for the same cause, and I feel confident, as a result of this meeting, South Galway will soon send the wounded soldiers a message that we here, at least, will not forget their sacrifices until we see them march back to their old homes, or, at least, to others equally comfortable and happy.

Mr Martin Kennedy, hon sec, read letters of apology for non-attendance from Messrs W Field, M P; Wm Redmond, M P; Mayor of Dublin, Rev Canon Canton, Athenry; Rev Father Egan, P P, Duniry; Rev J Cahalan, P P, Kilconla; Rev P Lynch, C C, Kilreesh; Rev Father Costello, P P, Woodford—all of whom expressed their sympathy with the movement.

Mr John Dillon, M P, wrote—"My Dear Sir—I regret that it is quite impossible for me to be in Loughrea on St Patrick's Day, owing to engagements entered into long before I received your letter. I wish your meeting every success. In my opinion the one thing needed to rescue the evicted tenants from their present position is a general union among the Nationalists and a thorough organisation of the country" (cheers).

Mr Michael Davitt, M P, wrote:—"Dear Sir—Yours of the 11th inst, inviting me to a meeting at Loughrea on St Patrick's Day, only reached me this morning. I regret I cannot be present, as I have to start for Scotland to-morrow in order to fulfil engagements there on the 16th and 17th. Wishing your meeting every success."

Miss Maude Gonne wired expressing her deep sympathy with the cause, and regretting that other engagements prevented her from attending.

Mr Peter Sweeney, who was warmly received, proposed: "That we, the people of South and East Galway, publicly assembled in Loughrea, believe it to be the supreme and immediate duty of every man living on Irish soil, and deriving from it, directly or indirectly, the necessities of livelihood, to keep clear in front the claims of the evicted tenants, and to give with a generous Irish spirit that sustenance and courage sufficient to nerve them with the strength and justice of the fight for which they sacrificed home and happiness, is firmly and finally secured."

Mr Thomas Smyth seconded, and Mr Jer Lynam, one of the evicted tenants, supported the resolution, which was carried.

Mr P J Kelly (Killeanadreasna) proposed: "That to serve beneficially and practically the great cause of the evicted tenants, we believe it to be the just and paramount duty of all Irishmen to assist in knitting together the unshaken bonds of fellowship and union through which, when sound and unbroken, we reaped such magnificent benefits."

Mr William J Duffy seconded the resolution. He said it pleased him beyond measure to follow his friend, Mr Peter Kelly, by calling for unity (hear, hear). For years past there he had longed and yearned that such a day might come when Irishmen, forgetful of the past, and unmindful of the bitterness and differences of the past few years, might walk together the bonnie and true man, and show and prove from the heart and the soul of Ireland were still incorruptible (cheers), walk together, and show and prove that no matter what might be said to the contrary (even though it might be alleged that the Irish spirit was on the wane), the heart of Ireland was sound, and that the spirit was undying and indestructible (cheers).

The motion was adopted.

Mr Francis Tully and Mr P Boland, Woodford, also addressed the meeting.

Mr M Clasby, P L G, Cranghwell, proposed and Mr James Lynam seconded a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried enthusiastically.

Father Nobilly having returned thanks, the proceedings terminated.

WOLFE TONE AND NINETY-EIGHT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

Meetings of the General Purposes Sub-Committee of the above named Association took place on the 13th and 16th inst at the offices, 15 D'Olier street, Mr J P O'Brien presiding. Also present—Messrs P W Corrigan, T C; J Butler, P Culleton, G Sparks, J W O'Beirne, T Cahill, Kelly, G A Lyons, J J Kennedy, P Macken, P T Daly, J Dunphy, and J P Dunne, secretary.

Letters were submitted from the Town Clerk, City Engineer, and Secretary Tramways Company assenting to the request made by the committee that no guiding poles for electric wires should be placed contiguous to the site of the memorial, or in any other manner likely to act detrimentally to the view of the memorial when erected.

The Secretary also submitted an extract from the "San Francisco Nation," which reported the Dublin Irish Brigade celebration on the Emmet Anniversary by the Knights of the Red Branch of that city in aid of the Wolfe Tone Monument Fund, and the intention of the committee having charge of the collection of funds for the memorial to close the subscription list for that purpose with the receipts from the above-mentioned meeting.

The organisation arrangements of the Lyric Theatre Matinee on St Patrick's Day having been dealt with, it was decided to hold a special meeting of the committee at 15 D'Olier street on Thursday next, to deal with the question of performance of secretarial work by the hon secretaries, and the providing of suitable offices for the association. Cheques for outstanding accounts were submitted and signed by the chairman.

The following notice of motion was handed in by Mr J J Kennedy for next meeting:—"That our secretary be instructed to advertise in the public Press for draft specification and tender for monument and statute thereon of Theobald Wolfe Tone in light bronze, giving height and dimensions, etc., thereof, all materials to be as far as possible of Irish manufacture to be executed by an Irish artist—contractor, so as to enable us to announce to the public the amount of funds required to order and construct the monument."

The meeting then adjourned till Thursday evening, 23rd inst, at 15 D'Olier street, when all moneys due by the Lyric Matinee Account are requested to be forwarded to the secretary between the hours of 8 and 10 p m.

LABOUR CONVENTION IN CLONMEL.

IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS.

A convention of representatives of the Trade and Labour League Branches of the different districts in South Tipperary was held in the Mechanics Institute, Clonmel. Mr E Murphy presided, and there were also present—Messrs J J Shee, M P, hon sec to the organisation; Michael O'Connell, T C; James O'Connell, T C; E F Walsh, T C; P Burke, T C. Clonmel Trade and Labour League—John M'Cormack, James Shaw, James Minton, Patrick Hickey, John English. Clonmel Irish National Foresters—Michael Hogan, Chief Ranger; Bros James Williams, William O'Connor, James Talbot, Richard Donnelly. Tipperary—David L Quane, U C; James Fitzgerald, Michael Lyons, David Casey, William Barlow. Fethard T and L L—T Byrne, J Hackett, John Ryan, P Kenrick. Cashel—J J Buggy, John Duggan, John Brennan, John M'Namara. Killenaule—Thos Carroll, M Miller, William Dunne, Richard Howley, T J Kennedy, William Carroll, John Kennedy, M Meagher, John Meagher. Littin—William Ryan, Laurence Quinlan. Emly—Billy Burke, Michael Phelan, M Donovan. Knockavilla—William Moroney, James Mullane, M Ryan, William Hickey. Carrick-on-Suir—Joseph Thompson, Edmond Larkin, John M'Cormack, M Dowdall, John Christopher. Gurtnahoe—Thomas Moloney, John Maloney, John Morrisa, Patrick Darcy, James Rafter. Cullen—John Linehan, Timothy Murphy, Michael Fitzgerald. Clonoen—Simon Delahunty, James Kennedy, R H O'Shea, M Heffernan, James Shee, J Noonan. New Inn—M Cooney, M Gibbons, M Purcell. Rossmore and Ballyneill—Thomas Ryan, James Dwyer, John Mooney, James Condon. Golden—D Moloney. Tubbrid—T Gorman, N Cummins, N Blake, J F O'Brien, P Ryan, P Dalton. Kilsheelan—J J Fleming, R Kiely, J Fleming. Moyglass—James O'Meara, John Ryan, Michael O'Keefe.

The Mayor, who was very warmly received, thanked those present for asking him to preside at so representative a convention. They all knew the great necessity for unity and organisation. They saw the harm and destruction which had been wrought by disunion and dissension in the Irish Party in the past years, and how the country had gone back to where they had been ten years ago. That would not have occurred if they had remained in one solid, united phalanx. He appealed to those present to carry out the resolution to appoint a representative committee, and hoped that they would work in the interests of the organisation. They were aware that their common enemy was still in the field, taking advantage of every opportunity and of any disunity amongst the people. There was no room in their country for more than one organisation, that was the National organisation, and he hoped the people would show their enemies their real feeling. They had been anxious for past years to have a hall like this, and to be able to give it for the public use, but it would be present time ago they could not hold a Nationalist meeting in that hall, but in future it would be open, and he was proud to be the first Mayor who was able to give it for such a purpose (applause).

The Mayor having been called away on business, Mr P Kenrick, T C, Fethard, was called to the chair, and a vote of thanks was passed to his worship.

Mr Shee, M P, said Mr Field, M P, had written expressing regret that he could not attend, and mentioned that Mr Condon, at P, had a prior engagement in Thurles. He then proceeded to explain the programme, constitution, and the rules of the Land and Labour Association, and submitted the following resolutions:—

1. That this Labour Convention endor

On Saturday evening the "Shamrock" banquet took place at the Grand Hotel ou Louvre. Among those present were — The Very Rev Canon Connelly, Father O'Doherty, the Rev C Hermeline, Rev M Conteville, M L Nemours Godre, M C de Kirwan, M O'Toole, Mr C M'Carthy Teeling, M Auguste Roussel, M Joseph Mollet, M Paul Tailliez, Baron Farquharson-Stuart, M Boyer de Bouillane, Baron de Bernon, Dr Keating, and more than thirty other gentlemen.